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TO : The Secretary  
THROUGH: S/S  
FROM : INR - Roger Hillsman

INTELLIGENCE NOTE: SOVIET INTENTIONS ON BERLIN IN THE LIGHT OF RECENT  
PRIVATE REMARKS BY KHRUSHCHEV.

FILE

We have reviewed Khrushchev's remarks on Berlin in his [REDACTED] conversations with foreigners since last June of which we have a record. From these we estimate present, evidently still tentative, Soviet plans to be as follows:

Peace Treaty. No date for a separate treaty has been set and Moscow hopes to be able to continue postponing it for some time. Khrushchev indicated the treaty would not be signed until further negotiations have taken place and "nothing has come out of them." By public commitment, the Soviets have, however, moved closer to a peace treaty than they were a year ago and may ultimately feel forced to sign one unless the next round of talks yields plausible reasons for postponing the action once again.

Summit. Khrushchev now apparently expects to follow probable Rusk-Gromyko exchanges at the UN with personal discussions with President Kennedy, evidently sometime after mid-November. Such discussions would almost certainly precede any peace treaty action. We believe the Soviets will utilize a Kennedy-Khrushchev meeting to present new proposals which could permit, and possibly prolong, a new series of discussions before any treaty signature.

Berlin Plans. Khrushchev's outline of effects on Berlin of a peace treaty has been consistent since at least last December [REDACTED]

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 There is allegedly to be no blockade or interference with civilian access; however, military access is to be cut but no direct effort made to force Allied troops to withdraw immediately. The Soviets evidently do not plan to take any individual steps drastic enough in themselves to entail risk (in the Soviet view) of dangerous counteraction from the West.

United Nations Involvement. The Soviets do not appear to have reached a final decision about introducing the Berlin issue into the UN. Evidently they contemplate such action at present only in the context of increased tension, either as a result of a peace treaty or because of unilateral moves on the Berlin scene. Khrushchev's remarks suggest the Soviets consider this gambit as a tactical move to impede Allied response to Soviet actions, (and until action is taken, as a threat.)